

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMON COUNCIL  
OF THE CITY OF PLATTSBURGH, NEW YORK**

May 22, 2014

**5:30 P.M.**

**MINUTES**

**Present:** Mayor James Calnon, Councilors Rachelle Armstrong (W1), Mike Kelly (W2), Dale Dowdle (W3), Paul O'Connell (W4), Becky Kasper (W5), Joshua Kretser (W6)

**Absent:** None

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**1. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:**

**RESOLVED:** That the Minutes of the regular meeting of the Common Council held on May 8, 2014 are approved and placed on file among the public records of the City Clerk's Office.

By Councilor Kasper; Seconded by Councilor Dowdle

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O'Connell, Kasper, Kretser

(All voted in the affirmative)

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**2. PAYROLLS OF VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS:**

**RESOLVED:** That the payrolls of the various Departments of the City of Plattsburgh for the weeks ending May 14, 2014 in the amount of \$ 265,384.06 and May 21, 2014 in the amount of \$ 260,941.59 are authorized and allowed and the Mayor and the City Clerk are hereby empowered and directed to sign warrants drawn on the City Chamberlain for the payment thereof.

By Councilor Kelly; Seconded by Councilor Kretser

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O'Connell, Kasper, Kretser

(All voted in the affirmative)

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**3. REPORTS OF CITY OFFICES & COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

- Report of Fire and Ambulance Responses for the weeks of May 8 – May 21, 2014
- Report from the Building Inspector's office May 20, 2014
- Report of the Work Session of the Common Council held on May 15, 2014
- Statement from the City Clerk's Office of all monies received during the month of April 2014 in the total amount of \$12,669.64
- Finance Department Statement of Revenue and Expenditures for the months of April 2014

**RESOLVED:** That the reports as listed are hereby ordered received and placed on file among the public records of the City Clerk's Office.

By Councilor Armstrong; Seconded by Councilor O'Connell

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O'Connell, Kasper, Kretser  
(All voted in the affirmative)

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**4. CORRESPONDENCE OR RECOMMENDATIONS FROM BOARDS: None**

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**5. AUDIT OF CLAIMS:**

**RESOLVED:** That the bills Audited by the Common Council for the weeks ending May 16, 2014 in the amount of \$ 1,079,871.46 and May 23, 2014 in the amount of \$ 694,207.58 are authorized and allowed and the Mayor and City Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to sign warrants drawn on the City Chamberlain for the payment thereof.

By Councilor Kelly; Seconded by Councilor Dowdle  
Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O'Connell, Kasper, Kretser  
(All voted in the affirmative)

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**6. PERSONS ADDRESSING COUNCIL:**

**Jesse Feiler** said in 2 weeks it's National Trails Day. He spoke about the festival they will be having on the Saranac River Trail on Saturday, June 7. He read and submitted information regarding the event.

**Karen Bisso** candidate for the New York State Assembly in the 115<sup>th</sup> Assembly District said she is here to introduce herself to all of you and to listen to the activities of the day.

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**7. OTHER ITEMS:**

**A. RESOLVED:** In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves WPCP to advertise for bids for Contract # 2014-21 "Instrumentation Services for Water Pollution Control Plant."

By Councilor Armstrong; Seconded by Councilor Dowdle  
Discussion: None  
Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O'Connell, Kasper, Kretser  
(All voted in the affirmative)  
**ACTION TAKEN:** Adopted  
Follow up Action: None

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**B. RESOLVED:** In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves Contract # 2012-12 with Triangle Electrical Systems, Inc. for "Electrical Services for Water Pollution Control Plant be extended to June 27, 2015. \$126,000 has been budgeted.

By Councilor Kasper; Seconded by Councilor Kelly  
Discussion: None  
Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O'Connell, Kasper, Kretser  
(All voted in the affirmative)

**ACTION TAKEN:** Adopted

Follow up Action: None

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**C. RESOLVED:** In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves City Engineer to advertise for Contract # 2014-23 "2014 City Street Paving."

By Councilor Kasper; Seconded by Councilor Kelly

Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O'Connell, Kasper, Kretser

(All voted in the affirmative)

**ACTION TAKEN:** Adopted

Follow up Action: None

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**D. RESOLVED:** In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves City Engineer to advertise for Contract # 2014-22 "2014 Sidewalk Replacement."

By Councilor Dowdle; Seconded by Councilor Kelly

Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O'Connell, Kasper, Kretser

(All voted in the affirmative)

**ACTION TAKEN:** Adopted

Follow up Action: None

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**E. RESOLVED:** In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves that the Mayor is authorized to sign Architectural & Engineering Agreement with AES Northeast, PLLC for Contract # 2014-24 "Design and Construction support services associated with the mold removal from the City Marina Building on Dock Street." The cost associated with this service is \$30,740.

By Councilor Kasper; Seconded by Councilor Armstrong

Discussion:

**Councilor Armstrong** said to clarify regarding the procedure to follow here. So what I heard Mayor Calnon saying was it isn't appropriate to make separate bids and do the project piece meal in stages as Councilor Kretser suggested. There's a municipal procedures to follow regarding this process and I heard you say there's a set of standards that have to be met that are governed by municipal law in order to conduct this business and the \$30,000 even though we might have another architectural firm that would give us a lower bid for that opinion this group has already done the work and the background, which does give me pause, why is it going to cost so much if they've already done all the research and they've done this already. So that this cost is normal and is typical.

**Councilor Dowdle** asked if that's because we don't have possession of the work.

**City Engineer Kevin Farrington** said no the work that they did involved different design, but, some of the initial site reconnaissance type of work has been done. Also, keep in mind this does include some cost for support during construction. So they'll review a few spot inspections and so forth. It's

also not to exceed price. So if we didn't use the construction support for example we wouldn't be billed for that.

**Councilor Kasper** said I guess that's where part of my problem comes in here. Because I read these six pages and it seems like the kitchen sink is thrown in. So that we're paying to have these folks schedule meetings, take notes at meetings, schedule the construction and again not to be a broken record but how much time do you actually need to sit down and plan out a schedule to hang a door and put up drywall? And I understand that we're dealing with municipality and cost get inflated. But this is precisely why people look at any government and say they can't do their work. So \$30,000, I'm with Dale, let's put up a bathroom structure and then we have the grant. But \$30,000 and having no alternative it's a disincentive to me. When I think of \$30,000 and how many homes on Lynde Street would be paying their entire taxes for the year to pay for someone to schedule meetings and write up notes and I understand there are other responsibilities that are professional responsibilities and I understand that the law requires that they have to have an architectural stamp on the design schematics so can't we simply contract for those schematics and get that stamp. So what I want to know is what is minimally required by law that we have to have in order to proceed with a bid for contract and whatever else is built in here that is causing us to generate so much cost. That's really my interest.

**Councilor Dowdle** said and part of my concern is if we're looking at this investment with future investment nothing's being done to prevent, if you can prevent, any further damage to the building should we have high waters again. It could all be for not.

**Councilor Kretser** said and I echo Paul's statement that I want this to be finished as soon as possible. We need to make it accessible for the community. We want to have thriving downtown and make it welcoming for people from anywhere that wants to come and visit. And the fact that we have this great opportunity with this grant for the docks is wonderful. I think that we could do this in stages and I think that we could start with mold remediation. And work with our newly configured Community Development office as we have been looking for the grants and things now that we're able to pursue to make this maybe more cost effective to the city.

**Councilor O'Connell** said again my concerns as expressed earlier. We have some fishing derby's coming up and if a pro fisherman comes in and wants to go to the bathroom he really doesn't have a place to go. We were fifth among lakes to be at now we're twenty-seventh. Next year if we don't fix it we may be down to fifty-eight. And these might start swaying and leaving us. I'm concerned about this proposal and maybe my question could be answered, I'm not sure. Kevin, they did some stuff before was there anything involving mold removal. Was there a fee or estimate or cost for mold removal?

**City Engineer Kevin Farrington** said they did do some measuring and mapped out. The mold abatement design they are subcontracting to Atlantic Testing who's got some particular expertise in that area.

**Mayor Calnon** said I think the question is in the work that Navtours did on our behalf did they develop mold remediation as a plan. No, they really just drew the new plans. They didn't do specs for mold removal at that point.

**City Engineer Kevin Farrington** said no.

**Councilor O'Connell** said that makes a difference to me because that's what this is proposing a study on mold removal remediation.

**City Engineer Kevin Farrington** said well a design for exactly to what scale.

**Councilor O'Connell** said about the mold removal not the rest of the building.

**City Engineer Kevin Farrington** said the mold abatement is \$5,000 and the remainder of the design and some support during construction.

**Councilor O'Connell** said it's just worded kind of...

**City Engineer Kevin Farrington** said it is and I apologize the way the resolution's worded.

**Councilor O'Connell** said because I'm looking at it and it only says to go to mold remediation and nothing else. Because \$30,000 for that would be kind of high.

**City Engineer Kevin Farrington** said yeah that's \$5,000 design including mold abatement designs is what that's for.

**Councilor Kretser** said going back to our work with the Community Development office and Amy Bonn. We're working on consolidated funding applications which could be long term projects where this could fall under the comprehensive planning that we are doing to ensure that this is something that's going to be the best suited for the entire community. I think that we could do mold remediation and then have a further discussion.

**Mayor Calnon** said I hope it gets done in my term. This is really the issue to me. I understand this is not an ideal situation and really on the surface you look at this and say even if the project was \$150,000 the fact that it looks like planning is \$30,000 is a problem. But, even if we don't like rules that we're bound to operate under they're the rules we've got to operate under. If we don't do this nothing will happen. Ok, it's been moldy for 3 years it's time to get that out of there. It's a time to take a step towards the future. No matter what the design of the marina is, no matter who the operator is, they're going to have to have bathrooms; they're going to have to include showers. And this just seems like a step we just have to take. We don't like the fact that it's going to cost us a maximum of \$30,000 to spec, but, if we don't do it we don't do anything and that's my concern.

**Councilor Kelly** said I think \$30,000 seems like a lot of money for what we're getting. Based on what we've talked about this evening and the things I'm reading on this document it seems like a lot of money. Why can't we go back to AES Northeast and say can't you do it for less? Or could we go to another architectural firm who would do it for less? What's the harm in doing that?

**Mayor Calnon** said there is no harm in doing it.

**Councilor Kelly** said let's do it.

**Mayor Calnon** said except for time.

**Councilor Kelly** said except for time, right, I agree with you Jim we need to move fast. I'm not going to go for this because there are a lot of questions around it. I think it costs too much. And if we can go back to them and say can you give us a better price for this then let's look at it again.

**Councilor Armstrong** asked how much of a delay would it mean to get another opinion.

**City Engineer Kevin Farrington** said I don't know if I could have it on the agenda in 2 weeks I could try. If not, I would think it would be the following meeting I would certainly have something.

**Councilor Armstrong** said just on principal in order to demonstrate the correct level of oversight regarding this project. Because of so much discussion I think that would be a really good step to take. If it doesn't require a prolonged investigation as the Mayor indicated set us back. Because I do agree that the installation of the bathrooms is something that we need to do. If it's only going to be a couple of weeks I think that I could get on board with that idea. I wish we had more staff so that we could do some of these things in house. I know that you have to work with limited resources in your office. That's the ideal as far as I'm concerned is to have more work done in house so that we don't have to contract out for services all the time.

**Councilor O'Connell** said I don't want to delay any longer so if this is going to enhance us to get the things done quicker and bathroom facilities available down there for people that go there. I'm going to be in support of that. Because if we vote a different bill it's going to take longer. I don't want to keep prolonging it I want to get some things done. It seems to be a lot of money and I think it is but we need to have some facilities down there for people to do the proper things.

**Councilor Dowdle** said I came in tonight ready to say no to this after doing a little homework on it and talking to others. If we go out to bid again everyone's going to know what the bid was. So if I was an architect I come in with a bid \$2,000 less there's your lower price. But is the delay worth that? Most businesses whenever I get an estimate everything seems to be pretty much in line with each other. So I'm wondering if we'd actually get a lower bid.

**Councilor Kretser** said I've also seen other alternatives to something if we just bulldozed the building there are prefab concrete structures that could be brought in and dropped on the pad.

**Councilor Dowdle** said and then they can be removed and used elsewhere if need be.

**Councilor Kretser** said possibly and they'd be more permanent.

**Councilor Kelly** said might be a little more flood proof also.

**Councilor Dowdle** said well there probably wouldn't be any mold issues with a cement building.

**Councilor Kretser** said I just think there's other options to consider.

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O'Connell, Kasper, Kretser  
(Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, Kasper and Kretser voted in the negative. Councilor O'Connell voted in the positive)

**ACTION TAKEN:** Defeated

Follow up Action: None

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**F. RESOLVED:** In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves Change Order No. 1 in the amount of \$7,350 and No. 2 in the amount of \$19,500 to Contract # 2014-03 "Painting the Pipeline Suspension Bridge over the Saranac River."

By Councilor O'Connell; Seconded by Councilor Kelly

Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O'Connell, Kasper, Kretser  
(All voted in the affirmative)

**ACTION TAKEN:** Adopted

Follow up Action: None

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**G. RESOLVED:** In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves the City Chamberlain to revise capital project H5110.38 May 2011 Flood Damage to eliminate funding of \$60,000 from the General Fund for the Saranac River pedestrian suspension bridge as this funding will not be reimbursable as FEMA flood damage costs and therefore the funding of this element is being transferred to capital project H8130.59 to complete the project item through funding from the Sewer Capital Reserve.

By Councilor Kasper; Seconded by Councilor Armstrong

Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O'Connell, Kasper, Kretser  
(All voted in the affirmative)

**ACTION TAKEN:** Adopted

Follow up Action: None

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**H. RESOLVED:** In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves the City Chamberlain to revise capital project H8130.59, 2014 Sanitary Sewer and Pumping Station for a change in the cost of the Suspension Bridge Sanitary Sewer item from \$176,000 to \$270,000. The elements of this change are a funding transfer of \$60,000 from project H5110.38 May 2011 Flood Damage that will not be available from the General Fund and an increase to the item cost through a change order of \$34,000 per the attached memo from the City Engineer. Both increases to this item will be funded from the Sewer Capital Reserve.

By Councilor Kretser; Seconded by Councilor Kasper

Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O'Connell, Kasper, Kretser  
(All voted in the affirmative)

**ACTION TAKEN:** Adopted

Follow up Action: None

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**I. RESOLVED:** In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves amending the management pay scale for City Clerk Sylvia Parrotte.

By Councilor O'Connell; Seconded by Councilor Kelly

Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O'Connell, Kasper, Kretser  
(All voted in the affirmative)

**ACTION TAKEN:** Adopted

Follow up Action: None

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**J. RESOLVED:** In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves Bruce Martin of Tour De Force to hold an "Xtreme 5k" on US Oval on Sunday June 29, 2014 at 9am.

By Councilor Kretser; Seconded by Councilor Armstrong

Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O'Connell, Kasper, Kretser  
(All voted in the affirmative)

**ACTION TAKEN:** Adopted

Follow up Action: None

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**K. Motion to waive rule 4 for initial consideration** "Request from Councilor Kasper that the Council send a resolution calling on the Governor, The New York State Assembly, and the New York State Senate to enact the "Abandoned Property Neighborhood Relief Act of 2014."

By Councilor Kelly; Seconded by Councilor Kasper

Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O'Connell, Kasper, Kretser  
(All voted in the affirmative)

**ACTION TAKEN:** Adopted

**RESOLVED:** In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves that the Council send a resolution calling on the Governor, The New York State Assembly, and the New York State Senate to enact the "Abandoned Property Neighborhood Relief Act of 2014."

By Councilor Kasper; Seconded by Councilor Kelly

Discussion:

**Councilor Kelly** asked Becky to send those letters for us.

**Councilor Kasper** said she would be happy too.

**Councilor Dowdle** said this is a good starting point and it might need to be tweaked a bit because this was copied verbatim.

**Councilor Kasper** said yes it is a template.



**Councilor Dowdle** mentioned that some abandoned properties may not have a mortgage and may be fully paid for and just left abandoned. This is a good start.

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O'Connell, Kasper, Kretser

(All voted in the affirmative)

**ACTION TAKEN:** Adopted

Follow up Action: None

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## 8. TRAVEL REQUEST:

**A. RESOLVED:** In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves two Police Officers to attend "2014 Annual New York State chiefs of Police Training Conference" in Lake Placid, NY from July 13-17, 2014 at a cost not to exceed \$2,069.50 and will be expensed to Asset Seizure Fund (training expenses).

By Councilor Kasper; Seconded by Councilor Kelly

Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O'Connell, Kasper, Kretser

(All voted in the affirmative)

**ACTION TAKEN:** Adopted

Follow up Action: None

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## 9. RESOLUTIONS FOR INITIAL CONSIDERATION:

1. Request from Councilor Kasper that the Council send a resolution calling on the Governor, The New York State Assembly, and the New York State Senate to enact the "Abandoned Property Neighborhood Relief Act of 2014"

**Councilor Kasper** said I'd like to thank Mike who actually heard about the Attorney General's report whose initiative was announced on Monday. So I went to the State Attorney Generals page and found the article. There are a great number of cities in New York State the Attorney General is attempting to gather support for this "Abandoned Property Neighborhood Relief Act of 2014." So I called Schenectady City Clerk and got the template for the resolution and they tweaked it a little bit so we might as well do, if you could look at it for us. Essentially, this is to address the weaknesses in the law that was written in 2009 which allows lenders and banks to not address property issues until after all the foreclosure process has been completed. Which is dragging and which takes a great deal of time and that's why you have the Zombie properties. And very often is very difficult for municipalities to figure out who has possession and who owns it. And as most people don't know they can stay in a property until the foreclosure process has come to a conclusion so people leave their properties and that's why they become blights, magnets for crime, decreased property values and essentially are blights in the neighborhood. So, what this resolution is essentially support for this act. And to send it on to Janet Duprey and Betty Little to encourage them to strengthen the law so a couple of things happen. One is, as soon as a property has been abandoned then that lender that institution immediately has responsibility for the upkeep of

the property. And secondly, that the lender puts the information about that property in a registry so officials don't have to go chasing down who owns it. And then the public would also have access to that registry and the public would also be able to use a hot line to the NYS Attorney General to inform them of where they have a suspicion of an Abandoned Zombie Property. So essentially this is joining other municipalities such as Poughkeepsie, Schenectady, Albany and the ball is rolling to do this to the State Assembly and the State Senate and ask them for help so that we can continue to beautify our city.

**Councilor Kelly** said I brought this to Becky's attention because Becky brought this issue to our attention and I felt like if anyone should act upon it she should. She took the ball and ran with it so to speak. Thank you for doing that Becky. I'd also like to suggest we go ahead and vote on this resolution tonight. That way our letter to the appropriate legislators can happen that much more quickly.

**(Move to agenda under "Other Items" Letter K)**

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**10. NEW BUSINESS:**

**Mayor Calnon made a motion to implement rule 4 and consider the 7 Bond Resolutions.**

By Councilor Kasper; Seconded by Councilor Kelly

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O'Connell, Kasper, Kretser  
(All voted in the affirmative)

**ACTION TAKEN:** Adopted

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**A. BOND RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF PLATTSBURGH, NEW YORK, AUTHORIZING PURCHASE OF THREE AUTOMOBILES (PROJECT H5110.46), STATING THE ESTIMATED MAXIMUM COST THEREOF IS \$49,000, APPROPRIATING SAID AMOUNT THEREFOR, AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF UP TO \$35,000 SERIAL BONDS OF SAID CITY TO FINANCE A PORTION OF SAID APPROPRIATION, AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF UP TO \$35,000 BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES OF THE CITY FOR THE SAME PURPOSE.**

By Councilor Kasper; Seconded by Councilor Dowdle  
Discussion:

**Councilor Kasper** asked some questions that were answered by the Bond Council representative.

**Councilor Dowdle** asked what the vehicles are and if they are considered equipment.

**City Chamberlain Richard Marks** answered.

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O'Connell, Kasper, Kretser  
(All voted in the affirmative)

**ACTION TAKEN:** Adopted

Follow up Action: None

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**B. BOND RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF PLATTSBURGH, NEW YORK, AUTHORIZING PURCHASE OF AN ASPHALT HEATER TRAILER (PROJECT H5110.46), STATING THE ESTIMATED MAXIMUM COST THEREOF IS \$60,000, APPROPRIATING SAID AMOUNT THEREFOR, AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF UP TO \$60,000 SERIAL BONDS OF SAID CITY TO FINANCE SAID APPROPRIATION, AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF UP TO \$60,000 BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES OF THE CITY FOR THE SAME PURPOSE.**

By Councilor O'Connell; Seconded by Councilor Kasper

Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O'Connell, Kasper, Kretser

(All voted in the affirmative)

**ACTION TAKEN:** Adopted

Follow up Action: None

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**C. BOND RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF PLATTSBURGH, NEW YORK, , AUTHORIZING STREET RESURFACING AND IMPROVEMENTS (PROJECT H5110.44), STATING THE ESTIMATED MAXIMUM COST THEREOF IS \$1,195,000, APPROPRIATING SAID AMOUNT THEREFOR, AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF UP TO \$746,000 SERIAL BONDS OF SAID CITY TO FINANCE A PORTION OF SAID APPROPRIATION, AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF UP TO \$746,000 BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES OF THE CITY FOR THE SAME PURPOSE.**

By Councilor Kasper; Seconded by Councilor Kretser

Discussion:

**Councilor Kasper** stated the North Margaret Feasibility study is included in this which is really \$5,000 of bonding. Why did we have to bond \$5,000 for that one? I thought that money was coming from elsewhere.

**City Chamberlain Richard Marks** said even though that is on the capital project we are only bonding \$746,000 and you'll see there is different funding.

**Councilor Kasper** said you just have to include everything that is out of the capital project.

**Mayor Calnon** said this does 2 things it establishes the capital project and it establishes the bond.

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O'Connell, Kasper, Kretser

(All voted in the affirmative)

**ACTION TAKEN:** Adopted

Follow up Action: None

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**D. BOND RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF PLATTSBURGH, NEW YORK, AUTHORIZING 2014 SOUTH CATHERINE STREET CONSTRUCTION (PROJECT H5110.43), STATING THE ESTIMATED MAXIMUM COST THEREOF IS \$6,686,000, APPROPRIATING SAID AMOUNT THEREFOR, AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF UP TO \$792,200 SERIAL BONDS OF SAID CITY TO FINANCE**

A PORTION OF SAID APPROPRIATION, AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF UP TO \$792,200 BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES OF THE CITY FOR THE SAME PURPOSE.

By Councilor Armstrong; Seconded by Councilor Kelly

Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O'Connell, Kasper, Kretser

(All voted in the affirmative)

**ACTION TAKEN:** Adopted

Follow up Action: None

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E. BOND RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF PLATTSBURGH, NEW YORK, AUTHORIZING 2014 SARANAC RIVER TRAIL DESIGN PROJECT (PROJECT H5110.45), STATING THE ESTIMATED MAXIMUM COST THEREOF IS \$228,000, APPROPRIATING SAID AMOUNT THEREFOR, AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF UP TO \$46,000 SERIAL BONDS OF SAID CITY TO FINANCE A PORTION OF SAID APPROPRIATION, AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF UP TO \$46,000 BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES OF THE CITY FOR THE SAME PURPOSE.

By Councilor Dowdle; Seconded by Councilor Armstrong

Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O'Connell, Kasper, Kretser

(All voted in the affirmative)

**ACTION TAKEN:** Adopted

Follow up Action: None

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F. BOND RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF PLATTSBURGH, NEW YORK, AUTHORIZING FIRE STATION 2 ROOF REPLACEMENT, STATING THE ESTIMATED MAXIMUM COST THEREOF IS \$120,000, APPROPRIATING SAID AMOUNT THEREFOR, AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF UP TO \$120,000 SERIAL BONDS OF SAID CITY TO FINANCE SAID APPROPRIATION, AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF UP TO \$120,000 BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES OF THE CITY FOR THE SAME PURPOSE.

By Councilor Kasper; Seconded by Councilor O'Connell

Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O'Connell, Kasper, Kretser

(All voted in the affirmative)

**ACTION TAKEN:** Adopted

Follow up Action: None

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G. BOND RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF PLATTSBURGH, NEW YORK, ADOPTED MAY 22, 2014, AUTHORIZING ACQUISITION AND INSTALLATION OF GYM LOCKERS, STATING THE ESTIMATED MAXIMUM COST THEREOF IS \$23,000, APPROPRIATING SAID AMOUNT THEREFOR, AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF UP TO \$23,000 SERIAL BONDS OF SAID CITY TO FINANCE SAID APPROPRIATION, AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF UP TO \$23,000 BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES OF THE CITY FOR THE SAME PURPOSE.

By Councilor Kasper; Seconded by Councilor Kretser

Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O'Connell, Kasper, Kretser

(All voted in the affirmative)

**ACTION TAKEN:** Adopted

Follow up Action: None

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**New Business (continued):**

**Councilor Armstrong** said I want to investigate the acquisition of 10 new Pet Stations. I forwarded you the estimated costs and would like to investigate what budget line it might be procured.

**Mayor Calnon** said I got that and am taking a look at it.

**Councilor Kasper** said I would like to come back to the issue of street parking as you had brought up alternate street parking. And/or issues of Brinkerhoff Street and street cleaning and whether it is possible to use the snow ban lights so that we can do something about those streets. Because they really are filthy and there are people who are trying to clean them. I know the street sweeper went through but when you've got cars parked up and down then there is nothing you can do about it.

**Department of Public Works Superintendent Mike Brodi** indicated they are going to get volunteers to rake the sides of the road and get the cars off it's the only way you can do it.

**Councilor Kasper** said but something on a more consistent basis. Because everyone else gets cleaned and then because you can't go through because of the parking it's really not fair to the center city.

**Councilor Dowdle** said there was a time when the street sweeper operated at night, what happened?

**Department of Public Works Superintendent Mike Brodi** said too many noise complaints and we sometimes have a crew go in there at 6 o'clock in the morning but without a parking ban we can't clean the street. We do put cones out to try.

**Councilor Dowdle** asked if the new street sweepers were quieter than the old ones.

**Department of Public Works Superintendent Mike Brodi** said the newer one is, yes.

**Councilor Kasper** reminded everyone that Saturday morning at 8:30am at the Smith Weed Bridge we are starting a cleanup of the rail road tracks down to Lorraine. There's a lot of garbage there and it's filthy. People are looking at all the garbage as they look out of the train windows and they're seeing the very worst we have instead of the very best. And we're going to go down to Dock Street and cleanup there in preparation for Mayor's Cup.

**Councilor O'Connell** said he has had an ongoing problem in his ward with skunks. I had the opportunity to speak to Jim the skunk man. I road by there last night and it really reeked. Now I've been told there has been a dead skunk under a shed for quite some time. I promised the people on the street that I would find out who was responsible if it is the homeowner. Can anyone advise me who the responsibility would be at? Is it the homeowner?

**Corporation Counsel Dean Schneller** said it would rise to the nuisance level and be on the homeowners.

**Councilor O'Connell** said so if the homeowner fails to do that, what can be done?

**Corporation Counsel Dean Schneller** said you're not talking about a typical nuisance it's a wild animal by the time it came around to doing an enforcement action report for an existing nuisance thru the Building Inspector's office it would probably be gone on its own. It's kind of a common sense solution rather than..

**Councilor O'Connell** said come on for a walk with me because it hasn't been gone in 2 years. I just wanted to find out whose responsibility and what action can be taken so I can respond to the people that are concerned.

**Corporation Counsel Dean Schneller** said try the County Health Department as well.

**Councilor O'Connell** said don't we pay someone \$25,000 or \$30,000 to do something like that and follow up on those things.

**Police Chief Racicot** said when the person contacts the Police Department to report he sets out a trap and then the animal is euthanized.

**Councilor O'Connell** said it still doesn't do anything with the dead skunk.

**Police Chief Racicot** said if the skunk is dead it is not going to produce the smell. If someone smells a skunk it is from a live skunk.

**Councilor Dowdle** asked about the job posting for Parking Enforcement attendant so that's a go? And now that we have the Director of Community Development will that give the Building Inspector more hours from that individual?

**Mayor Calnon** said I don't think immediately maybe to some extent. Bringing Bruce on line to kind of help plan the future of the Community Development office. What Kenny and Carole have been doing is really maintaining the services. Some of that can be shifted, but, the biggest part of what they do is, know what they're doing, years of experience. So we're still going to rely a little bit on Kenny and to some extent on Carole to keep things going. Ultimately when we finally get together what our vision is and fund it in the fall that should probably take care of it. We will get the Building Inspector's office fully focused on the Building Inspector's office.

**Councilor Dowdle** said also the complaint report. I see we are up to 5 pages. Is that kind of a seasonal thing? He asked Building Inspector Joe McMahon about some of the items on the report. And I'll ask you or the Chief, how did the fire inspections get turned over to the Building Inspector's office.

**Fire Chief Stone** said it wasn't really exclusively a Fire Department and Building Inspector's office they both did the inspections. We had an Assistant Fire Chief, Lieutenant and 2 firefighters that did the inspections and then they reduced the staffing within the Fire Department and transferred the work to the Building Inspector's office.

**Councilor O'Connell** said the follow up to that is if there is a fire you have to investigate the causes and all of that. Who is involved in doing that? Is that you Desi? I thought so.

**Councilor Dowdle** said there's been discussion some time ago and I haven't heard anything since about the possible closure to traffic to Clinton etc. It would eliminate approximately 72 parking spots. I also noticed when the County bought taxable property and put in a parking lot it came off the tax rolls. But the thought there was it will have a domino effect. It will move over and free up, however, the past 3 weeks now that I got my bicycle out there's always 20 to 30 empty parking spots at that County employee. When courts in session you just keep circling and circling. Is there any way to get a row closed to employees and opened for business parking?

**Mayor Calnon** said that's under the County's jurisdiction.

**Councilor Dowdle** said the exchange was take it off the tax rolls but we'll free up parking spots. It didn't quite work. And the demolition of the bank on Division Street that's going to a parking lot, correct?

**Mayor Calnon** said yes it is.

**Councilor Dowdle** said and that's going to be owned by St. John's.

**Mayor Calnon** said yes it is.

**Councilor Dowdle** said have they entered in to an agreement to allow us, the citizens of Plattsburgh, to use it off hours so to speak?

**Mayor Calnon** said there's no agreement at this point.

**Councilor Dowdle** said is there one anticipated?

**Mayor Calnon** said I don't know. I don't know that one is really necessary.

**Councilor Kretser** said they have been in contact with the Arts Center saying Strand events and parking within reason and as long as they aren't conflicting with any of their events.

**Councilor Armstrong** wanted to follow up on the issue of liaisons. I've emailed you the recommended assignments so you can begin meeting with your departments.

**Mayor Calnon** said that needs to be done by resolution. One of the things we do in our Organizational Meeting is establish the liaisons.

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**11. CLOSING PUBLIC COMMENTS: None**  
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Motion to Adjourn by Councilor O'Connell; Seconded by Councilor Kasper

Roll call Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O'Connell, Kasper, Kretser  
(All voted in the affirmative)  
**MEETING ADJOURNED: 6:36pm**



*Read and submitted by  
Jesse Feiler 5/22/14*



## **National Trails Day - Saturday June 7**

**Meet at Pine Street and the Saranac Street Bridge from 9 am - noon to help with a cleanup of Saranac River Trail. In addition to the cleanup, get together with other Trail fans to find out about upcoming events on the Saranac River Trail.**

**Kevin Farrington, City Engineer, will talk about Phase II of the Trail; other participants include Sunrise Rotary, Max Moore Memorial Treehouse, PIB, along with a special trail-related announcement from the Kent Delord House/North Country Chamber of Commerce.**

**Organized by Friends of Saranac River Trail.**

**Thanks to City of Plattsburgh Department of Public Works for their support.**

**For more information contact Jesse Feiler or [info@saranacrivertail.org](mailto:info@saranacrivertail.org).**